

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously amended): A physically stable shear thinning sprayable gel composition useful for delivering actives to skin comprising:

a clay gelling agent;

water;

at least one water-miscible solvent; and

at least one viscosity stabilizer selected from salts, acids, citric acid, xanthan gum and combinations thereof, wherein an amount of said at least one viscosity stabilizer contained in said composition ranges from about 0.01 percent to about 0.05 percent by weight, based on a total weight of said composition.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1 wherein the amount of clay ranges from about 0.4 percent to about 2 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

Claim 4 (original): The composition according to claim 3 wherein the amount of clay ranges from about 0.7 percent to about 1.5 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 3 wherein the water-miscible solvent is selected from the group consisting of alcohols, glycols, esters, and combinations thereof.

Claim 6 (original): The composition according to claim 5 wherein the water-miscible solvent is selected from ethanol, glycerol, and combinations thereof.

Claim 7 (original): The composition according to claim 5 wherein the amount of water-miscible solvent ranges from about 30 percent to about 65 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

Claim 8 (original): The composition according to claim 7 wherein the amount of water-miscible solvent ranges from about 35 percent to about 50 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The composition according to claim 31 wherein the viscosity stabilizer is ~~selected from the group consisting of salts, acids, sugars, shear sensitive polysaccharide gums, starches, and combinations thereof~~ an acid.

Claims 10-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 6 further comprising an active ingredient selected from the group consisting of menthol, camphor, diphenhydramine, antifungal agents, antihistamine agents, anti-infective agents, anti-inflammatory agents, antipruritic agents, skin and mucous membrane agents, wound care agents, and combinations thereof.

Claim 14 (original): The composition according to claim 13 wherein the active ingredient is selected from menthol, camphor, and combinations thereof.

Claim 15 (original): The composition according to claim 13 wherein the amount of active ingredient ranges from about 0.1 percent to about 1 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

Claim 16 (original): The composition according to claim 15 wherein the amount of active ingredient ranges from about 0.25 percent to about 0.75 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

Appl. No.: 09/954,911
Response dated March 30, 2005

Claim 17 (new): The composition of claim 1, wherein the viscosity modifier is citric acid.